

# East County Intercom



Isiah Leggett, *County Executive*

Timothy Firestine, *Chief Administrative Officer*

Anise Key Brown, *Director*

Kim Bobola, *ECCAB Chair*

Newsletter

December 2008

## UPCOMING EVENTS!

# Indoor Yard Sale

## SAVE THE DATE !

### EAST COUNTY WINTER FEST YARD SALE (INDOOR)

*(First come, First serve) - CALL IMMEDIATELY TO SIGN UP!*

Date: December 6, 2008  
Registration begins 8:00 am—10:00 am  
Sale begins 10:00 am– 3:00 pm  
Location: East County Community Center  
3310 Gateshead Manor Way, Silver Spring

*Sponsored by Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center to benefit Eastern Montgomery Emergency Assistance Network (EMEAN)*

*For more details, call # 240-777-8400*



## Inside this issue

Upcoming events at EMRSC..... 1  
Events held in East County..... 2  
What's happening in East County....3  
Library News..... 4  
EMRSC Conference Rooms Layout.4

## Topics of Interest

- East County Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Information
- The Peoples Community Wellness Center



**FREE LEGAL ADVICE CLINICS** - The Montgomery County Bar Foundation Pro Bono Program, in partnership with Eastern Montgomery Regional Services, will continue to provide free Legal Advice Consultations for **low income** community residents on the evenings of **Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 9:00 pm**. *Custody, Child Support, Debts, and Immigration*, are some of the issues you may bring and receive legal guidance on. The Clinics will be held on the **first and second Thursday evenings of each month**. A client intake must be completed within the first half-hour to be assisted. Clinics are being held at the Regional Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road in Silver Spring. For more information, call the Pro Bono Program Monday through Thursday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm (301) 424-7651 or (301) 424-7652 or (301) 424-7633. For directions call 240-777-8400.

## MONTGOMERY COLLEGE IS COMING TO EAST COUNTY!

Beginning February 2009, two Montgomery College courses will be offered at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center (EMRSC). **SPANISH I, PART I**, will meet on Monday evenings from 6:30-8:30 beginning **February 9**. **CREATIVE WRITING** will meet on *Wednesday afternoons* from **1:30-3:30**. The courses are part of the college's Workforce Development & Continuing Education (WD&CE) Program. Brochures about WD&CE may be picked up at the EMRSC. To register for either course, go to

<http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/ce/foreignlanguages02.html>.

For assistance, call Ms. Price, WD&CE Program Director at 240-567-5515.



## The Peoples' Community Wellness Center at EMRSC



A Cooperative Venture between the  
People's Community Wellness Center  
(TPCWC), Eastern Montgomery Regional  
Services Center (EMRSC) & Mobile Med.  
For questions, call TPCWC at  
(301) 847-1172

**Montgomery County Police**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Dist. Police - Silver Spring**  
**801 Sligo Avenue,**  
**Silver Spring, MD 20910**  
**Tel #(301) 565-7740**

*"If we are ever to enjoy life, now is the time, not tomorrow or next year . . . Today should always be our most wonderful day."*

- Thomas Dreier

## LOOK WHAT YOU MISSED....

**East County Job Fair**—Approximately 600 people looking for employment attended the **Second Annual East County Regional Job Fair** on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The Fair was sponsored by the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center with the support of Council member Don Praisner, Montgomery Works, East County Community Center and other community organizations. Forty employers set up exhibits and provided job-seekers with information on current job openings, took applications and resumes, and arranged for future interviews. Exhibitors attending included *Safeway, AT&T, Comcast, Montgomery County Government, Fed Ex, Montgomery College, Hilton Hotels, CVS, Transportation Security Admin., Home Instead Senior Care, Fisher BioServices, and many more.*



**Job Search Strategies Workshop**- Fifteen people received assistance with their job search by learning the most successful job search strategies and how to apply them in a free, two hour workshop presented by Marvin Adams, certified Job and Career Coach, Career Consultant, and Career Development Instructor. The workshop was held at the **Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center**, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, and Silver Spring on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Those attending plan to continue to help each another by meeting weekly on **Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am for a job search support group**. If you would like more information about this group, call Gwen Haney at 240-777-8400.

### County Executive unveils major changes on Fairland Road



On November 19<sup>th</sup>, County Executive Isiah Leggett, along with Dept. of Transportation Director Arthur Holmes, met with East County residents to announce major road improvements along Fairland Road. This community meeting was a follow up to a September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting held with the residents of the Fairland Estates Homeowners Association, to discuss the tragic pedestrian fatality which occurred in early September 2008. The improvements announced will include 2 new traffic signals along West Fairland Road, one at *Serpentine Way* and the other at *Tamarack Road*. In addition, the County will be relocating bus stops along this segment of Fairland Road as well as designing and planning for the installation of sidewalks along the north side of Fairland road. The new traffic signals will be designed to incorporate pedestrian crosswalks with a concrete

center median, to increase safety for pedestrians as they cross this increasingly busy stretch of roadway.

Mr. Leggett emphasized his continued strong commitment to Pedestrian Safety and the fact that this incident had a particularly profound effect on him, as he was actually at the crash site on that early September morning. Police Captain John Damskey outlined his unit's patrol activities along this stretch of Fairland road and committed to continuing this enforcement activity until such time as these improvements are in place over the next 12 months.

**AARP Driver Safety Class** - The AARP Driver Training program continued classes at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center on **Saturday, November 22, 2008 and November 29, 2008**.

The program traditionally known as "55 Alive," is designed to enhance the skills of senior drivers aged 50 and over. The 8 hour course was taught by John Nash, an AARP volunteer and East County resident, and is always a lively session full of very useful driver information. The additional benefit of taking the course is the 10% discount possible from your vehicle insurance carrier. For more information about Senior Driver Training classes, please go the AARP web site [www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org)





# see what's happening in East County...

East County Community Center is celebrating their Annual Holiday Breakfast Feast featuring Santa on **December 13<sup>th</sup>**, from **9am-12noon**. This event will have giveaways, arts and crafts, and photos.



**Please HELP Manna's Winter Food Drive!** Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center and the County's Department of Health and Human Services is seeking our community's help to increase food staples for needy families over the Holidays. Manna's most needed foods include: *Peanut Butter, Rice, Tuna Fish (Canned), Dried Beans, Canned Fruit and Vegetables, Tomato Sauce, Baby Formula/Baby Food, Pasta, Shelf-Stable Milk, Macaroni and Cheese, Cereal and Oatmeal, Canned Soup.* Manna's Smart Sacks backpack program, with food sent home to children, needs the above foods in small servings as well as: *Small Fruit Cans/Cups, 100% Juice Boxes, Crackers; Pudding; Healthy Cereal Bars; Individual Raisins/Dried Fruit; Pouches of "instant" Potatoes or Rice and, other nutritious kid-friendly food.* The Collection Box will be located at Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904 until December 31, 2008.



## State Bridge Maintenance on US29 May Cause Delays

– In *early December, 2008*, the Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration (SHA) will begin a \$1.1 million bridge cleaning and painting project along US 29 (Colesville Road) over the Patuxent River in Montgomery County.

The project will be completed by the summer 2009,

weather permitting. SHA will remove the existing paint and clean and repaint the steel bridge structure. There will be a containment system in place to prevent any damage to the Howard T. Duckett (Rocky Gorge) watershed. Painting the bridge structure is part of SHA's preventative maintenance against rust.

During construction, motorists can expect single lane closures on both directions of US 29 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. and between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m., *Monday through Friday*. SHA will also provide variable message signs, drums, and arrow boards to guide motorists through the work zone. SHA awarded the contract to Klicos Painting Company of Baltimore, MD. SHA reminds all drivers to buckle up, obey posted speed limits, think orange, and stay alert. Residents or motorists who have questions about traffic operations on US 29 or other State numbered routes in Montgomery County may call SHA's District 3 Office at 301-513-7300 or toll free at 1-800-749-0737.

## IMPORTANT

### Are You Ready for Digital TV?

The federal government is requiring all over-the-air broadcast television stations (such as WJLA, WUSA and WRC) to convert to all-digital television broadcasting by February 17, 2009. If your TV is hooked up to your local cable system or another subscription video provider, your service will not be impacted. However, **if you own an "analog" TV set that is not connected to cable and functions with the help of "rabbit ears" or an antenna, you will not be able to watch broadcast TV channels as of February 17, 2009.**

Consumers with an analog television set who watch over-the-air broadcast television, via a roof-top or "rabbit ear" antenna must either: 1) Connect all television sets to cable or another video service, 2) Purchase a new television set with a digital tuner, or 3) Obtain a digital set-top tuner that will convert digital TV signals back to analog.

**Coupons are available from the federal government to help pay for digital-to-analog converters.** Help your friends and family prepare for the upcoming Broadcast Digital Television Transition. Let them know that the DTV Transition is coming and they need to make plans now. You can find more information on the broadcast DTV transition by visiting [www.dtvtransition.org](http://www.dtvtransition.org), by calling 1-888-DTV-2009.



## FREE ESOL CLASSES—

Open enrollment continues for Beginner and Intermediate "English for Speakers of Other Languages" (ESOL) classes at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center. Classes are held on **Tuesday evenings from 6:00-8:30, will continue through May 2009** and are open to all wanting to learn English. To receive more information, call 240-777-8400. Classes are provided by the Chinese Culture and Community Center.

## Winterfest 2008

Resurrection Church, 3315 Greencastle Road, Burtonsville

December 5—3:00 pm—9:00 pm

December 6—9:00 am—3:00 pm

Please come and enjoy our vendors, crafters, home-made baked goods, nuts, White House Ornaments, Treasure Chest and Silent Auction.

**HOC sets HCV and Public Housing Waiting List Openings for December 8. Applications will be accepted for six days only**

The [Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/rsc/eastco/hocsetshcvcandpublichousingwaitinglistopenings.pdf) (HOC) has announced that the waiting lists for both the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) and Public Housing programs will open between December 8<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> 2008. Go to <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/rsc/eastco/hocsetshcvcandpublichousingwaitinglistopenings.pdf>

**Growing Smarter Montgomery Community Meeting—**Montgomery County planners seek to learn what you value most about your community – be it clean air and water or walking in vibrant downtowns. Tell us what you think at our upcoming community meeting on what should be part of the next county Growth Policy. Our introductory presentation is followed by small group discussions on connections, environment, design & diversity. Light refreshments provided. First 50 in the door receive a free nylon backpack. Learn more at [www.GrowingSmarterMontgomery.org](http://www.GrowingSmarterMontgomery.org), where you can fill out an online survey to voice an opinion.

10 a.m.-noon Saturday, December 6  
Park and Planning Headquarters  
8787 Georgia Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

**Marilyn J. Praisner Library**, 14910 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville, Maryland 20866  
Tel 240-773-9460. To review the Marilyn J. Praisner Library's upcoming events and

other learning programs go to **Calendar of Events at:**

<http://host.evanced.info/montgomerycountymd/evanced/eventcalendar.asp?ag=&et=&dt=dr&ds=2008-3-31&de=2008-9-30&df=list&cn=0&private=0&lib=5>

**White Oak Library**, 11701 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Maryland 20904 Tel 240-773-9555

To review the White Oak Library's upcoming events and other learning programs go to **Calendar of Events at**

<http://host.evanced.info/montgomerycountymd/evanced/eventcalendar.asp?ag=&et=&dt=dr&ds=2008-3-31&de=2008-9-30&df=list&cn=0&private=0&lib=20>



Meeting and conference room space is available at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Center. To reserve space, call the CUPF agency at #(240) 777-2706

FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY NEWS - go to  
[http://montgomerycountymd.gov/Apps/News/press/PR\\_list.asp](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/Apps/News/press/PR_list.asp)

## East County Citizens Advisory Board (ECCAB)

Residents are invited to attend the East County Citizens Advisory Board meetings and encouraged to ask questions & provide comments.

Our next ECCAB meeting will be held at the  
Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center on

**Wednesday, December 3, 2008 at 7:15pm**

For questions please contact : Tel (240) 777-8400 / TTY (240) 777-8418

**Meetings are open to the Public!**



**Wishing our friends a very Happy  
and a Prosperous New Year 2009.....**

The County's Holiday Giving Project, coordinated by Interfaith Works/ Community Ministry, has been serving families in need during the holidays for 30 years. Call 301-762-8682 or email at [giving@iworksmc.org](mailto:giving@iworksmc.org) to see how you can help.

To subscribe to our East County Newsletter, Programs & Events, click here  
<https://ext01.montgomerycountymd.gov/entp/s1p/esubpublic/newssubscriber.do>

**Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center**

**3300 Briggs Chaney Road**

**Silver Spring, MD 20904**

**Phone: 240-777-8400 / Fax: 240-777-8410**

**e-mail: [eastco.citizen@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:eastco.citizen@montgomerycountymd.gov)**

**web : <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/eastco>**



## FREE Compost Bins

available at EMRSC

Call 240-777-8400

M-F 8:30 am -5:00 pm